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THE WEATHER

Western Oregon—Fair, except rain north coast; cooler interior; easterly winds.

Western Washington—Fair, except rain near the coast; cooler interior; southeasterly winds.

Eastern Oregon and Washington, Idaho—Fair.

CLATSOP REPUBLICANS.

The legal invasions that have been wrought upon old-time party methods and seasonal demonstration, may be all right in the abstract, but it will be many a year before they can obliterate the earnest interest that attaches to the "ways and means" that have stood the people in good, and bad, stead from time immemorial. The old "war-horse," and the eager young novitate, demand the application of the old rules and methods, at least in form, in order that intelligent and harmonious action may be pursued in the partisan and personal quests that may be afoot and that there may be constructive action and interest in the attainment of the better and larger purposes of the party. This is peculiarly true of the dominant party in Oregon, as it should be; and if observed, will contribute conspicuously and handsomely, as in the past, to the good of the State.

It is time the Republicans of Clatsop were conferring in convention as to what, and whom, are to be chosen, as the leading courses of procedure, and agents to carry them out, and the letter of Mr. Abbott, of the Central Committee, to Chairman McGregor, in Sunday's Astorian, is clearly in line with popular desire as it manifests itself within the old party lines. It is an admirable scheme of preparation to send the voter to the primary polls with definite knowledge of his party's approval choice for the larger and more important offices, and equips him with an understandable reason for supporting such pre-determined candidates as have received such practical endorsement.

DETACHED SCHOOL-ROOM.

The Collinswood horror has set the country thinking along lines of safety for the millions of children in America in attendance upon the public schools; and the farther the argument runs, the more emphatic becomes the universal choice of the detached, ground-floor school-room, heated by air or steam from extraneous sources. And it will prove a national blessing when the common-sense of the country has delivered its fiat, in this line, to those who have the building and organizing of the school systems in hand.

It is one of those questions that does not involve the issue of restricted sites; no one ever dreams of a school site under a block in size in the cities, nor of less than an acre in the country districts; and upon either, the detached principle may be followed abundantly.

There are countries that have suffered so much from the fire-lesson, in theatres, schools, and other public establishments, that no buildings devoted to large assemblies are now permitted to stand except they shall be detached from all hazards, and as absolutely immune from neighboring dangers as human foresight may provide, with exits on all sides and available from any direction in the interior. This should be taken as the organic rule in this country, not alone for schools, but for all great centers of assemblage; and thus put human life just a notch or two above the all-imperative dollar.

SCANDINAVIAN-AMERICAN SAV. BANK

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HUGHES "DOESN'T CARE."

All through the press and magazine comment of the day ament the possible candidacy of Charles H. Hughes for the Presidency of the United States, there is, invariably, the resonant note "that Mr. Hughes doesn't care"; of his conspicuous indifference as to what is done, by whom, or when, or how; so long as he is not called upon to express, or exert, himself in the great premise.

Now we are disposed to think very highly of Governor Hughes as man and officer; to class him among the great and successful governors of the day, and to accord him the friendliest sort of endorsement in the latest and highest relation in which his name has figured. But, if, as is so persistently alleged, he "doesn't care," the scope of our appreciation must be qualified. The man who is, or affects to be, indifferent to the suggestion that he be clothed with the supreme dignity this nation has in its power to confer on one of its citizens, is a bit out of the running with the ordinary man who has been trained to know and properly estimate the gift.

If Mr. Hughes really possesses this extraordinary apathy in this high relation, and if he really prefers the quietude and dignity of private life, it is his bounden duty to pre-emptorily withdraw from a field liable to be irksome to him, and leave it to men with a keener regard for the superlative honor it confers. He has no right to allow the use of his name for consideration and use at a juncture when other good men are in line and demand, who would know and realize the rare and splendid compliment paid to any in the bare mention of his name as a possible candidate for the presidency.

America is not in search of men who are, or think they are, above the plane of such gifts as this. What she wants in a Chief Executive, is a man, who, realizing the dignity and sanctity and immense value of the post, shall take it as the crowning blessing and honor of his life, and use it to the uttermost in making it, and the country that gave it, the center-course of other blessings and honors wherewith a nation such as ours seeks to invest itself. The man who "doesn't care," primarily, may extend the dubious quality a fraction too far when the prestige and prerogative of the gift lies in his hand.

Even here, in far off Astoria, the reputed unconcern of Mr. Hughes in the work of his friends and admirers, to secure for him the nomination at Chicago, is a matter of frequent discussion, and adverse comment; and it would seem that in the East it should by this time, have become an issue of some concern.

EDITORIAL SALAD

The request of Secretary Cortelyou that \$200,000 be appropriated for the new postoffice in New York would seem to indicate that the next structure will probably enjoy the benefits of the much needed improvement.

China's seizure of the filibuster off Macao, and her claims for damages because of the Vancouver riots are two marked steps of advancement more significant than appears at first glance. Is it the sleeping dog walking?

Seems odd for an English chancellor of the exchequer to oppose retrenchment plans. But perhaps Mr. Asquith thinks the proposed policy is "penny wise, pound foolish," as he thinks of recent war bills.

Pretty hard on some of us when the law is asked to drive corporations out of the state for paying big salaries. Of course not many of us are in the \$50,000 class.

The New York grand jury has gone

COFFEE

Good is so good and poor is so poor; have Schilling's Best tomorrow.

Your grocer returns your money if you don't like it; we pay him

into the investigation of the Ice Trust. Please find out why the 10-pound lump is only half the size it used to be.

Picking for the burglars in New York must be getting close, when they take the trouble to carry off notices for grand jury service.

Now that milk in the East has been reduced one cent a quart, it is time eggs should be put on spring prices.

Recent headlines would indicate that uneasy lies the head that wears the crown—of comptroller in "little" old New York.

BURIAL CUSTOMS.

Since his return Secretary Taft has been kept busy telling of his varied experiences during his notable trip. Among other things he was impressed by some of the burial customs of the Philippines, which in some instances are somewhat akin to pigeonholing the dead. There is indescribable pathos in the funerals of the poor. The mother, smoking a pipe, carries the little pasteboard coffin covered with colored cotton. Behind her are several children, presumably the surviving members of her family, and except for the coffin she carries on her head, there is nothing to indicate that a burial is about to take place. The fact that the child death rate in the city of Manila is so heavy makes it evident that the little ones who survive the climate there are in a small proportion to those who die, and the poet's argument that "Loss is common, doth not make our loss the less, but rather more," appears to be somewhat disproved by the Filipino attitude toward funerals.

The interment of a rich man is quite different; there is much pomp and a brass band plays. It has been grimly stated that the favorite tunes on these occasions is "There'll be a Hot Time," an air always associated with America by the Filipinos. "Dixie" and "Hiawatha" are also popular airs for funeral, and have served to enliven many a ceremony of this nature. Funerals in the Philippines appear to be regarded as a sort of public spectacle, and a day when one or two such goggleous functions do not occur is regarded as a dull period in Manila—Joe Mitchell Chapelle in "Affairs at Washington," February National Magazine.

WHEN EDISON LAUGHED LAST

In describing the recent formation in New York of the Association of Licensed Cement Manufacturers, which represents nearly seventy per cent. of the annual output of Portland cement in this country and controls the most important of the basic patents underlying the Portland cement industry, Cement Age cites an interesting phase of Edison's farsightedness. It says that a marked advance in the cement industry was due to Edison devising new calcining kilns, together with several unique methods of fuel consumption. In particular, he designed and patented a rotary kiln 150 feet long, and 7 to 8 feet in diameter, having a daily capacity of from 700 to 1,000 barrels of cement. Until that time, the largest kilns in use were 60 to 80 feet long, 5 to 6 feet in diameter, with a capacity of but 200 barrels a day. Edison's long kiln was universally ridiculed by the older cement manufacturers, however. But its success soon proved their criticism to be unwarranted and ridicule was transformed into emulation of Edison's example. Once aware of the possibilities of the Wizard's device the cement manufacturers lost no time in availing themselves of the long kiln—without Edison's consent, however. Today more than one half of the Portland cement made in this country is produced in kilns of the Edison type. Old plants are lengthening their kilns wherever practicable and no wide-awake manufacturer building a cement plant today could afford to install kilns other than one hundred feet in length and upward.

CONCRETE TILES.

Notwithstanding the low conductivity of concrete, a most valuable attribute in fire-proofing, it has been claimed by its opponents that terra

cotta was not only equally as fire-proof but a more practical and economical structural medium than concrete. Therefore, says Cement Age, it is interesting to note that there is now on the market a hollow tile of concrete, which possesses all the virtues of the terra cotta so far as design and shapes are concerned, but which is said to be far superior in strength and fire-resisting qualities. The new concrete tile is made in a machine consisting of a series of molds for receiving the wet material, which is immediately subject to a special provided treatment with steam. Steaming is continued for a period of 15 to 20 minutes. Plungers are located at the bottom of each mold, connected with mechanism for ejecting the green tile, which are then removed, and the machine is instantly ready for another casting. Three castings per hour on 1-inch web material is an easy average for each mold after the operators acquire a little experience. Very few of the green tile are ever broken. The concrete mixture is prepared to the consistency of a paste, of Portland cement and suitable granulated aggregate or crushed stone, furnace slag or gravel with sand, in proportion approximating 1 cement, 3 sand and 5 of the other aggregate, with sufficient water to give plasticity for pouring. These are thoroughly mixed together in quantities convenient for handling. Steam-curing by means of racking the green tile in the body of a closed car into which wet steam is in constantly flowing for twenty-four hours in summer and seventy-two in winter (after which they can be subjected to any climatic condition) is recommended by the inventor.

Given up to Die.

B. Spiegel, 1204 N. Virginia street, Evansville, Ind., writes: "For over five years I was troubled with kidney and bladder affections which caused me much pain and worry. I lost flesh and was all run down, and a year ago had to abandon work entirely. I had three of the best physicians who did me no good and I was practically given up to die. Foley's Kidney Cure was recommended and the first bottle gave me great relief, and after taking the second bottle I was entirely cured." Why not let it help you?—T. F. Laurin, Owl Drug Store.

Didn't Get a Patent.

Among the strange applications which reach the patent office one filed some years ago was most extraordinary, it being a petition for a patent for an ant guard which consisted in merely drawing a chalk mark around a table or other place by which it was claimed the approach of ants was stopped. It seems that chalk makes an ant's legs slip as soaping a track prevents a railway engine from starting. The petition was novel and caused considerable amusement. The application, however, was refused on the ground that there was nothing new in the invention, that chalk had been used for such purposes before and that such ideas were not patentable.

Climbing 199 Steps to Church.

The only way of reaching the old parish church at Whitby, in Yorkshire, from the town is by means of 199 stone steps—probably as curious an approach to a place of worship as any in the kingdom. The church stands on the east cliff some 200 feet above the sea level, and to watch the crowd of worshippers before and after service threading its way up and down the winding stairway is a sight to be remembered.—London Strand.

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